GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4331
ANSWERED ON:19.05.2006
PRODUCTION OF OPIUM
Bhagora Shri Mahavir

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether licence for production of opium and hemp etc. are being given in the country;

(b) If so, the number of licences issued in this regard, State-wise;

(c) Whether the cultivation of said narcotic drugs is being carried out even without obtaining licence;

(d) If so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(e) whether the Government are aware of the smuggling of these narcotic drugs;

(f) If so, the number of such cases came to the notice of Government during the last one year, State-wise;

(g) The action taken against the persons involved therein; and

(h) The steps taken by Government to stop smuggling of opium and hemp?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM)

(a) In India, opium poppy cultivation is permitted only under licence issued by the Central Bureau of Narcotics, in the tracts notified by the Central Government, in the states of Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh.

Cultivation of Ganja (Cannabis) for any purpose, other than medicinal and scientific purpose is prohibited in India and the powers to permit and regulate cultivation for medicinal & scientific purposes is vested with the concerned State Government.

(b) The State-wise number of licences issued for cultivation of opium poppy during the last three years are as under:

State	Number of licences issued for cultivation of opium poppy		
	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
Madhya Pradesh	48207	42351	36352
Rajasthan	46695	43532	34909
Uttar Pradesh	10795	1787	1217
Total	105697	87670	72478

Cultivation of Ganja is a subject matter of State Governments.

(c) & (d) There are reports of illicit cultivation of the poppy plants in some remote and inaccessible areas of the states of Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttaranchal, Manipur, Arunanchal Pradesh, Karnataka, West Bengal and Jharkhand by unscrupulous elements. Wild growth and illicit cultivation of cannabis has also been reported in the states of Manipur, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Himachal Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Jammu & Kashmir.

(e) Seizures made and the intelligence reports indicate trafficking of opium and cannabis in the country.

(f) The details of the cases booked, seizures of opium and cannabis made and number of persons arrested in such cases during the year 2005, as reported by various drug law enforcement agencies are given in Annexure -I.

(g) The persons involved in such cases are arrested for violation of provisions of NDPS Act and are prosecuted under the law.

(h) Major steps taken by the Government to stop smuggling of narcotic drugs including trafficking of opium and cannabis are as under:

i) Strict surveillance and enforcement at import and export points, land borders, airports, foreign post offices etc.

ii) Intensive preventive and interdiction efforts along known drug routes.

iii) Coordination between various drug law enforcement agencies in order to impart greater cohesion to interdiction.

iv) Identification of illicit cultivation of the opium poppy and the wild growth of cannabis and eradication of these sources of supply.

v) Strengthening of international liaison to improve collection, analysis and dissemination of operational intelligence.

vi) Increased international co-operation for exchange of information and investigative assistance in administering control over the movement of precursor chemicals.

vii) Building of an electronic database of offenders.

viii) Conducting training programmes for law enforcement officials for upgrading their skills to combat drug trafficking.

ix) Implementing a scheme of monetary rewards for information leading to seizures of narcotic drugs to informants and officers.

Annexure -I

Statement in respect of Unstarred Question No.4331 for 19.05.2006

DETAILS OF SEIZURES OF OPIUM AND CANNABIS DURING 2005 (PROVISIONAL)

State	Ganja			Opium		
	Quantity (in kg.)	No. of persons arrested	No. of cases arrested	Quantity (in kg.)	No. of persons arrested	No. of cases arrested
Andaman and Nicobar	3	2	2	0	0	0
Andhra Pradesh	5057	66	143	0	0	0
Arunachal Pradesh	4	2	3	3	15	24
Assam	10271	56	86	0.19	1	1
Bihar	201	1	1	0	0	0
Chandigarh	54	17	13	0.25	6	2
Chhattisgarh	2757	214	144	0	0	
Goa	24	10	7	0	0	0
Gujarat	4335	55	82	6	3	4
Haryana	763	46	38	105	100	129
Himachal Pradesh	8	4	4	12	9	8
Jammu and Kashmir	82	3	3	0.34	1	1
Jharkhand	178	37	51	0.50	1	1
Karnataka	2191	144	213	14	4	7
Kerala	30	100	102	0	0	0
Madhya Pradesh	5321	343	393	337	80	106
Maharashtra	18042	360	509	19	12	15
Manipur	9702	32	45	0.80	2	2
Meghalaya	9894	30	1	0	0	0
Mizoram	122	136	154	0.08	2	2
Nagaland	43499	114	167	14	7	8
New Delhi	7759	70	78	24	8	8
Orissa	2759	71	141	0	0	0
Pondicherry	2	2	12	0	0	0
Punjab	89	23	0	433	375	465
Rajasthan	0	0	0	0.08	2	5
Tamil Nadu	2	1	0	0	0	0
Uttar Pradesh	7156	1524	1385	98	112	108
Uttaranchal	116	10	10	0.12	2	2
West Bengal	340	3	5	0	0	0